WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A pointing device, comprising:

2   a ring; and

3   a sensor unit comprising a plurality of sensors in a substantially circular

4   pattern, wherein the sensor unit is mounted on the ring.

1   2.   The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the ring is of a size that is capable of

2   being worn on a human digit.

1   3.   The pointing device of claim 1, further comprising:

2   at least one selection button mounted on the ring.

1   4.   The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the at least one selection button is

2   capable of being operated by a human thumb.

1   5.   The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the sensor unit is capable of being

2   operated by a human thumb.

1   6.   The pointing device of claim 1, further comprising:

2   a controller mounted to the ring, wherein the controller is coupled to the

3   sensor unit; and

4   a transmitter mounted to the ring, wherein the transmitter is coupled to the

5   controller, and wherein the controller is to translate a signal from the sensor unit to

6   movement information, and wherein the transmitter is to transmit the movement

7   information.

1   7.   The pointing device of claim 6, wherein the movement information contains

2   relative position information regarding a pointer on a display.

1 8. The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises
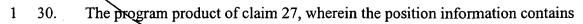2 pressure sensors.

1 9. The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises
2 rocker switches.

1 10. The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises
2 capacitance proximity sensors.

1 11. The pointing device of claim 1, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises
2 inductive proximity sensors.

1 12. The pointing device of claim 6, wherein the transmitter comprises an infrared
2 transmitter to transmit light pulses encoding the movement information.

1 13. A method for moving a pointer on a display, comprising:
2 detecting activation of one of a plurality of sensors arranged in a substantially
3 circular pattern on a sensor unit, wherein the sensor unit is mounted on a ring; and
4 creating position information for the pointer based on which one of the
5 plurality of sensors was activated.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the ring is of a size capable of being worn
2 on a human finger.

1 15. The method of claim 13, wherein the sensor unit is capable of being operated
2 by a human thumb.

1 16. The method of claim 13, further comprising:

2   transmitting the position information.

1 17. The method of claim 13, wherein the position information contains relative

2   position information regarding the pointer on the display.

1 18. A computer system, comprising:

2   a receiver; and

3   a pointing device, comprising:

4   a ring,

5   a sensor unit mounted to the ring, wherein the sensor unit

6   comprises a plurality of sensors in a substantially circular pattern,

7   a controller mounted on the ring, wherein the controller is

8   coupled to the sensor unit, and

9   a transmitter mounted to the ring, wherein the transmitter is

10   coupled to the controller, and wherein the controller is to translate a

11   signal from the sensor unit into movement information, and wherein

12   the transmitter is to transmit the movement information to the

13   receiver.

1 19. The computer system of claim 18, wherein the ring is of a size that is capable

2   of being worn on a human finger.

1 20. The computer system of claim 18, further comprising:

2   at least one selection button mounted on the ring.

1 21. The computer system of claim 18, wherein the movement information

2   contains relative position information regarding a pointer on a display.

1　22.　The computer system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises

2　　　pressure sensors.

1　23.　The computer system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises

2　　　rocker switches.

1　24.　The computer system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises

2　　　capacitance proximity sensors.

1　25.　The computer system of claim 18, wherein the plurality of sensors comprises

2　　　inductive proximity sensors.

1　26.　The computer system of claim 18, wherein the transmitter comprises an

2　　　infrared transmitter that transmits light pulses containing the movement

3　　　information.

1　27.　A program product comprising signal-bearing media bearing instructions,

2　　　which when read and executed by a processor comprise:

3　　　detecting activation of one of a plurality of sensors arranged in a substantially

4　circular pattern on a sensor unit, wherein the sensor unit is mounted on a ring; and

5　　　creating position information for a pointer on a display based on which one of

6　the plurality of sensors was activated.

1　28.　The program product of claim 27, wherein the ring is of a size capable of

2　　　being worn on a human finger.

1　29.　The program product of claim 27, further comprising:

2　　　transmitting the position information from an infrared transmitter.

1   30.   The program product of claim 27, wherein the position information contains

2   relative position information regarding the pointer on the display.